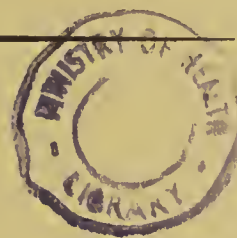


**Borough of Yeovil**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

**31st DECEMBER, 1960**



B O R O U G H   O F   Y E O V I L

-:o:O:o:-

Mayor:

ALDERMAN JOSEPH PATRICK KELLY.

Deputy Mayor:

ALDERMAN DOROTHY VIOLET VINCENT.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor S. Pinder : Chairman  
Alderman J. P. Kelly : Vice-Chairman  
Councillor Mrs. H. Brown  
Councillor R. T. Hawkins  
Councillor R. T. Palmer  
Councillor J. A. Jones

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer:  
P. POWER FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer:  
M. I. ROSS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.


Dental Surgeon : : : : QUENTIN DAVIES, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

Senior Public Health Inspector : C.G.H. RICE, M.A.P.H.I., Cert; R.S.I.  
S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I. Meat and Food.

Public Health Inspectors : : G.E. ROADHOUSE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.San.I.,  
Cert.R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Cert. R.S.I.  
Meat and Other Foods.

L. TAIT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Cert.  
P.H.I.E.B., R.S.H. Diploma Meat and  
Other Foods.

Student Public Health  
Inspector : : : : A. A. D. Charles.



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TO THE  
MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
of the  
YEOVIL BOROUGH COUNCIL

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1960.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The total number of live births was 353 as compared with 368 for the previous year. The live birth rate was 14.7 as compared with 15.3 for the previous year and England and Wales 17.1.

Infantile Mortality

The number of infants who died under the age of 12 months was 9 as compared with 12 for the previous year. The Infantile Mortality Rate, i.e. number of deaths per 1,000 live births was 25.4 as compared with 32 for the previous year and England and Wales 21.9.

The Peri-natal Mortality Rate was 22.4 as compared with 32 for the previous year and 32.9 for England and Wales.

Death Rate

The Standardised Death Rate was 13.03 as compared with 10.1 for the previous year. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

As in previous years the major causes of death were Heart Disease, (all ages) 113, 90 for the year 1959, and Cancer 50, 48 for the previous year. It will be noted from the table showing the age distribution at death (page 6), that excluding infants dying in the first 12 months of life, of the remaining 311 deaths, 300 occurred in people aged 65 years or over, 219 occurring in people who were 70 years or over.

Infectious Diseases

The number of infectious disease notified during the year was 42, this figure is extremely low. As in 1958, no cases of Poliomyelitis were notified.

Immunisation

The figures relating to immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox continue to be satisfactory. With regard to immunisation against Poliomyelitis, the figures for children are satisfactory, but there is ample room for improvement amongst the older age groups who are eligible for immunisation.

I again have pleasure in recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the Council, from the Public Health Committee and from members of the Staff.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,

P. POWER FOX.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



## YEOVIL BOROUGH

### STATISTICS OF THE AREA FOR THE YEAR 1960

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	2,256
Rateable value (31st March, 1961)	...	...	...	...	£435,882
Estimated Produce of 1d. rate in year ending					
31st March, 1961	...	...	...	...	£1,729
Number of inhabited houses (31st March, 1961)	...	...	...	...	7,845
Population	...	...	...	...	23,990

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough of Yeovil comprises an area of 2,256 acres and is situated at the extreme South of the County of Somerset, on the borders of Dorset, in the midst of an agricultural area.

The town is located on the Upper and Middle Liassic Formation. The sub-soil is chiefly clay, lying upon marlstone with the Midford Sands at Hendford Hill.

The greatest elevations within the Borough are: on the North, Mudford Road, 372 feet; on the West, Bunford Lane, 233 feet; and on the South, West Coker Road, 309 feet. The lowest point is on the East, beyond the Sewage Works, 96.7 feet.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is derived from the various sources, the majority being situated in Dorset. The sources of supply are as follows:- Spring Pond (two springs), Evershot Tunnel, upper and lower Haydon Wood, Stockwood and the Cattistock source, which consists of four boreholes. All the water is chlorinated, and frequent bacteriological analyses show the water to be satisfactory in quality. Unfortunately, the quantity available does not meet the present demand, which is approximately 1,400,000 gallons per day. An arrangements has been agreed to with the Yeovil Rural District Council to obtain an additional supply from the Sutton Bingham Reservoir, which ensures adequate supplies for the foreseeable future.

### METEOROLOGY

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog or mist.

### RAINFALL

Summerleaze Park School.      Total Rainfall = 30.87 inches.

### POPULATION

The population for 1960 is 23,990.

### OCCUPATION

One of the main industries of Yeovil is in the manufacture of leather gloves, and includes all processes from the preparation of the raw hides to the production of the finished article. This trade gives factory and home employment to a large number of persons of both sexes.

In addition to the gloving industry, there is a thriving aircraft industry and other light engineering industries, employing over 4,622 persons. There is also a large factory for the manufacture of preserved foods and dairy products.

## HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Hospital Services in the Borough are administered by the South Somerset Hospitals Management Committee under the general direction of the South Western Regional Hospital Board. Situated in the Borough are

- (1) The Yeovil and District Hospital - an acute general hospital.
- (2) Summerlands Hospital - mainly used as a Geriatric Hospital.
- (3) Yeovil Maternity Hospital (Five Crossways) - 14 beds.
- (4) Balidon Maternity Hospital - a General Practitioners Unit - 17 beds.

The Yeovil Hospital consists of 88 beds, of which six are private. The number of in-patients treated was 2,587, and the number of new out-patients 5,235. The number of X-ray examinations carried out was 21,177. In considering these figures it must be borne in mind that the area which the hospital now serves has considerably increased. Despite the valuable services which the hospitals carry out, it cannot be stated that the present hospital buildings and equipment are adequate for the present and potential requirements of the Borough and surrounding district. The matter is under review by the responsible authorities.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are treated at the South Petherton Hospital (50 beds). In general, only the Cubicle Block (10 beds) is required, and the other 40 beds are utilized for post-operative cases, so relieving the strain on the Yeovil Hospital and for General Practitioner patients and semi-chronic sick.

## TUBERCULOSIS

A Chest Clinic is held on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Yeovil Hospital. Patients requiring in-patient treatment are admitted to sanatoria at Quantock and Taunton.

## CHRONIC SICK

Summerlands Hospital (100 beds), which is situated in the Borough, is the largest hospital in the area used for this purpose. This hospital was originally a Poor Law Institute built in 1837, and the layout etc. does not conform with the accepted standards of today. Further, there is a constant shortage of nursing staff, but despite these handicaps, valuable work is carried out by the staff of the hospital.

## LABORATORY SERVICE

A small laboratory is located at the Yeovil Hospital. A Public Health Laboratory Service has a laboratory at Taunton, at which bacteriological examination of swab, blood, sputum and faeces is carried out. Bacteriological and chemical analyses for the examination of milk, foods, water supplies and sewage effluents are also carried out.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The Ambulance Service is a responsibility of the Somerset County Council. The Ambulance Control Office is located at the Summerlands Hospital. The ambulances and larger types of vehicles for sitting cases are in radio communication with the control office. A daily 24 hour service is maintained.

### HOUSING

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the resume showing the number of council houses erected by the Corporation.

Houses etc. completed during the year ended 31st December, 1960.	=	88
Houses etc. erected pre-war	=	1,596
Houses etc. sold pre-war	=	113
		<hr/>
Houses owned at 31st December, 1939	=	1,483
		<hr/>
Houses etc. erected post-war	=	1,352
Houses etc. sold post-war	=	96
		<hr/>
		1,256
		<hr/>
Houses etc. erected by the Local Authority and still owned by them	=	2,739
		<hr/>
Number of applicants on the waiting list at 31st December, 1960	=	524
		<hr/>



## VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

The statistics furnished by the Registrar General show the number of births and deaths after correction has been made for transfers to the normal place of residence of the individuals concerned. From these figures can be calculated the "crude" birth and death rates. As, however, the highest mortality occurs at the two extremes of life, and industrial areas in general have a bigger proportion of people living in the middle age periods of life, some correction must be made for the irregularities of distribution as regards age and sex, as otherwise the death rate will afford no accurate means of comparing the healthiness of one district with another. This comparability factor is furnished by the Registrar General and applied to the "crude" birth or death rate, gives a standardised rate and enables comparison to be made with the rate for England and Wales, or with rates of other districts.

Live Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	353
Live Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.7
Standardised Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	14.9
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) births	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.2
Total Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	357
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	25.4
" " " " 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	...	26.8
" " " " 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	...	2%
Neo-natal Mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 related live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality rate (first week) per 1,000 related live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.3
Perinatal Mortality rate (stillbirths + deaths during the first week) per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.4
Percentage of illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	5.09
Maternal Deaths (excluding abortion)	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Maternal Mortality rate (including abortion) per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.

### DEATHS

			<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Deaths	165	155	320	271
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	13.3	11.2
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	13.03	10.1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	50	48
Deaths from Heart Diseases (all ages)	...	...	113	90
Deaths from Phthisis (all ages)	...	...	1	-

## BIRTHS

The total number of births was 353, 187 male and 166 female. Of these, 18 were illegitimate, 11 male and 7 female. The table shows the birth rate for the previous ten years.

## BIRTH RATES

1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
15.3	15.08	14.9	13.5	15.0	14.2	15.9	13.6	15.3	14.7

## DEATHS

There was an increase in the total number of deaths, 320 in 1960 as compared with 271 for the previous year. The Standardised Death Rate was 13.03 as compared with 10.1 for the previous year. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.5.

The following table shows the age and sex incidence, and it will be noted that amongst the males, of the 165 deaths, 152 occurred amongst those 65 years and over, and 83 amongst those 75 years and over. Of the females, out of the total of 155 deaths, 147 were 65 years and over, and 101 were 75 years and over.

Ages at Death in years				<u>Males</u>	<u>1960</u> <u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Under 1	...	...	...	5	4	9
1	...	...	...	-	-	-
5	...	...	...	1	-	1
15	...	...	...	1	-	1
25	...	...	...	1	-	1
45	...	...	...	5	4	9
65	...	...	...	50	30	80
Total under 70				63	38	101
70	...	...	...	19	16	35
75	...	...	...	26	13	39
80	...	...	...	28	31	59
85	...	...	...	18	36	54
90	...	...	...	8	16	24
95	...	...	...	3	5	8
Over 100				-	-	-
Total over 70				102	117	219
Totals				165	155	320

The following table shows the causes of death during 1960.

Causes of Death	Males	Females
Tuberculosis respiratory ... ..	-	1
"    other ... ..	-	1
Syphilitic disease ... ..	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	3	2
"    "    Lung, Bronchus ... ..	8	2
"    "    Breast ... ..	-	6
"    "    Uterus ... ..	-	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	17	10
Diabetes ... ..	-	2
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	22	31
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	38	15
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	2	2
Other heart disease ... ..	21	35
Other circulatory disease ... ..	12	16
Influenza ... ..	1	-
Pneumonia ... ..	5	4
Bronchitis ... ..	8	6
Other disease of respiratory system ... ..	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	3	2
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	3	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	5	-
Congenital malformations ... ..	3	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	10
Motor Vehicle accidents ... ..	1	2
All other accidents ... ..	1	1
Suicide ... ..	5	-
	165	155

DEATH RATE

1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
14.23	10.57	10.35	9.57	11.34	12.02	11.8	11.2	10.1	13.03

CANCER

The number of deaths due to cancer (all forms) was 50. The table as set out below shows the incidence of cancer for previous years.

1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
46	48	51	41	49	40	59	51	48	50



CANCER DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION:

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Yeovil Boro'	1.58	2.06	2.02	2.14	1.7	2.04	1.6	2.04	2.1	1.9	2.13
County of Somerset	1.89	2.00	1.98	1.84	2.06	2.045	1.89	2.054	2.018	2.12	2.157
England & Wales	1.94	1.93	1.99	1.99	2.055	2.056	2.1	2.1	2.12	2.13	2.15

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying within the first twelve months of life was 9, as compared with 12 for the previous year. The rate per thousand of live births was 25.4 as compared with England and Wales - 21.9.

The following table shows the number of deaths and the Infantile Mortality Rate as compared with previous years.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
No of Deaths	9	11	8	7	5	8	5	9	12	9
Rate per 1 1,000 live births in Yeovil	25	30	22.5	21.7	13.8	23.3	13.05	27.6	32.6	25.4
Rate per 1,000 live births in England & Wales	29.6	27.6	26.5	25.5	24.9	23.3	23.1	22.5	22.6	21.9

CAUSES OF DEATH

Pulmonary Syndrome of Newborn	...	...	...	6 hours
Prematurity	...	...	...	1 day
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage, Convulsions	...	...	...	2 days
Congenital Heart Disease, Patent Ductus Arteriosus	...	...	...	4 days
Pulmonary Disease of Newborn	...	...	...	1 week
Primary Staphylococcal from Natural Causes(inquest held)	...	...	...	9 days
Congenital Heart Disease, Transposition Great Vessels, Pneumonia	...	...	...	3 weeks
Lobar Pneumonia, Meningomyelocele, Hydrocephalus	...	...	...	2 months
Cardiac failure, Congenital Heart Disease	...	...	...	3 months



AGE OF DEATH

Under 24 hours	Under 1 week	1 month or under	Under 1 year
1	4	7	9

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table sets out the details of infectious diseases notified during the year, and also the figures for the previous year.

CAUSES			Cases notified	
			1960	1959
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	-	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	5	23
Measles	...	...	7	139
Pneumonia	...	...	8	3
Erysipelas	...	...	1	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	15	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	6	2
Dysentery	...	...	-	1
Paratyphoid	...	...	-	-
Food Poisoning	...	...	-	-
Typhoid	...	...	-	-
Total ...			42	175

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria

The number of children under the age of 12 months immunized against Diphtheria during the year 1960 was 293, the total number immunized under the age of five years was 388, and the total number under the age of 14 years was 429. So far as possible, all children should be immunized against Diphtheria before their first birthday, but the minimum percentage to aim at is 75%. The proportion of children immunized during the year 1960 under the age of 12 months as compared with the number of children born in 1959 was 79.6%. In addition, 411 children received "reinforcement" doses.

Whooping Cough

The number of children who completed a course of whooping cough vaccination was 373, of whom 264 were under the age of 12 months. In the majority of cases the whooping cough vaccine is given combined with the diphtheria inoculations. During the year no deaths from whooping cough

were reported, and only 15 cases of whooping cough were notified. I think it reasonable to assume that the number of cases of whooping cough were more than those notified, but that due to the effect of the whooping cough inoculations, these cases were of such a mild nature as not to be recognizable by normal clinical examination.

#### SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The number of primary smallpox vaccinations carried out was 318, of which 259 were for infants under the age of one year. In addition, 318 re-vaccinations were carried out. The number of births for the preceding year was 368, so that the number of infants vaccinated was approximately 70.4% as compared with 69.6% for the previous year.

#### POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The total number of persons inoculated against Poliomyelitis was 1,487. This figure included 205 young persons (1933-1942), 428 children (1943-1960), plus 838 persons under the age of 40 years. In addition, 3,027 people received a third reinforcement dose.

#### TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year was 9, non-pulmonary 1. There was one death recorded due to pulmonary tuberculosis, and one death due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
No. of cases notified Pulmonary ...	9	12	12	17	24	23	26	18	24
No. of cases notified Non-pulmonary	1	4	2	4	4	4	4	7	3
No. of deaths Pulmonary ..	1	-	2	-	2	2	5	4	9
No. of deaths Non-pulmonary	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	2
Death Rate of Respiratory Tuberculosis per 1,000 population	0.04	0.01	0.08	-	0.08	0.08	0.20	0.17	0.38

The Death Rate of all forms of Tuberculosis for England and Wales was 0.06 as compared with Yeovil 0.04.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up-wards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	4	1	-	-	-	-	-

#### DENTAL TREATMENT

Number of Ante-natal cases ... 64  
Number of Post-natal cases ... 51  
Number of children under 5 years 202

#### HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS

Infants:-

Primary visits ..... 274  
Subsequent visits ..... 2,089  
Visits to children 1 - 5 yrs. 2,473

#### BLOOD EXAMINATION CLINIC

This clinic was commenced in 1947, and was, I think the first local authority clinic in Somerset. It is held at the Preston Road Clinic, Yeovil. Since its inception, 6,176 individual pregnant women have been examined, 754 examinations being carried out in 1960.

The areas from which the patients are drawn, are, as would be expected, mainly the Yeovil Borough and Yeovil Rural District. Patients are referred by the private practitioner or midwife, without previous appointment. A card showing the patient's blood group, and whether she is Rh. Positive or Rh. Negative, is forwarded to her direct, together with a covering letter emphasizing the importance of her retaining the card in case she ever requires a blood transfusion for any purpose. A report giving further information, including percentage of haemoglobin and W.R. test, is forwarded to the private doctor, and a copy of this report is also forwarded to the Midwife or Matron of the maternity unit, depending on where the patient is having her confinement. Previously, similar information was forwarded to Yeovil Hospital in case the patient was admitted there for any reason and required a blood transfusion, but a copy is now forwarded direct by the Laboratory doing the tests.



A record of all blood tests is kept at the Public Health Department. In the case of second or subsequent pregnancies of Rh. Negative women, as the test is normally carried out early in pregnancy, a further test is carried out 6 to 8 weeks before the expected date of confinement, to exclude antibodies. If antibodies are found to be present, and if in sufficient quantities to threaten the welfare of the baby when born, arrangements are made for the baby to be born either at Bristol or Taunton, so that the blood transfusion of the baby can be carried out if necessary. The number of babies whose life has been saved by this procedure now runs into double figures and is a source of considerable gratification.

#### INFANT WELFARE

##### Preston Road Clinic

Total number of children attending	.. .. .	509
Total number of children attending for the first time		273
Total number of attendances made	.. .. .	2,486

##### Larkhill Road Clinic

Total number of children attending	.. .. .	99
Total number of children attending for the first time		42
Total number of attendances made	.. .. .	431

##### Southville Clinic

Total number of children attending	.. .. .	206
Total number of children attending for the first time		110
Total number of attendances made	.. .. .	949

#### HOME HELP SERVICE

This service continues to render excellent assistance and the following table indicates the scope of its activities.

##### No. of cases who received help in 1960

<u>Type of Case</u>				<u>Yeovil Borough</u>
Mental Health	...	...	...	3
Maternity	...	...	...	34
Old Age and Infirmary	...	...	...	162
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4
Chronic Illness	...	...	...	15
Emergency Illness	...	...	...	15
Families of motherless children	...	...	...	2
Post-operation	...	...	...	18
Total				253

A number of old age and chronic sick cases have received help for two or three years.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Act.



## REVIEW OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The school health service provides for remedial and preventive treatment, and consists of:-

- (a) Routine and Special medical inspections.
- (b) Minor Ailments treatment.
- (c) Cleanliness inspections of children by Health Visitors.
- (d) Dental inspection and treatment.
- (e) A much expanded scheme, in co-operation with the Hospital Services for the treatment of defects of vision, and of ear, nose and throat.
- (f) Routine colour vision testing of children.
- (g) Routine and special testing of children's hearing acuity.
- (h) Speech Therapy.
- (i) Ultra Violet Light clinics for debilitated children.
- (j) Routine immunization of children against diphtheria. This consists mainly of reinforcement inoculations of children already immunized, but children who have been "missed" in infancy are immunized.
- (k) Breathing Exercises Clinic.

The Breathing Exercises Clinic was established in 1950, and is intended mainly for children who have Asthma, but also for other children with a history of chest trouble and for whom breathing exercises are valuable. The number of children initially enrolled was 24, the number on the roll in December, 1960, was 32. The total number of attendances in the year was 357, and since the inception of the scheme 142 children have been or are being treated. There is a marked improvement physically of children attending regularly, as shown by the increase in chest expansion and also by clinical examination of the chest. In addition, the children develop a sense of self confidence as they learn how to combat an impending attack of Asthma, and there is a marked improvement of physique and general posture.

FOR THE YEAR 1960.

I present herewith my Report for the year 1960, in which unfit housing continued to receive attention. A summary of the year's work is given below:-

Total number of houses dealt with ..... 104

Number of areas declared .....	13
Houses included in (a) pink areas .....	57
(b) grey areas .....	12
Number in (a) demolished .....	6
Number in (b) demolished .....	6

Number dealt with .....	47
(c) under Section 16 of the Act ....	38
(d) under Section 18 of the Act ....	7
informally .....	2
Number in (c) demolished .....	30
Closing Orders made .....	20
Closure procedure and undertakings accepted .....	21
Number of unfit houses made fit or rebuilt .....	8

COMPLAINTS:

General housing defects .....	56
Defective drainage, cesspools, etc....	37
Smoke, dust and effluvia .....	23
Rats and mice .....	57
re: Unfit food and food premises .....	6
Keeping of animals and poultry.....	3
Factories and other premises .....	4
Insects .....	26
Pig Bins .....	3
Overcrowding .....	1
Nuisances from water courses .....	3
Miscellaneous .....	8

Houses and other premises inspected:

Reinspections:

Defective houses rendered fit:

(1) informally under (a) .....	68
(2) formally under (b) .....	9

No cases of overcrowding were recorded during the year.



RENT ACT 1957.

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair .....	1
Undertakings submitted and accepted .....	1
Certificates of Disrepair granted .....	2

OTHER INSPECTIONS:

Complaints .....	144
Drainage .....	122
Verminous premises .....	9
Offensive trades .....	10
Movable dwellings .....	38
Re: Rodents:-	
(a) by the Public Health Department .....	34
(b) by the Rodent Operator .....	720
Smoke nuisances .....	16
Smoke observations .....	12
Interviewing owners, builders, etc .....	694
Searches (cursory inspections) .....	120
re: Small Dwelling Acquisition Acts Loans .....	36
" Improvement Grants .....	7
" Standard Grants .....	9

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS:

General Defects:

Roofs renewed .....	2
Roofs repaired .....	2
Chimneys repaired .....	3
Walls repaired .....	12
Walls rendered .....	22
Walls decorated .....	19
Windows renewed .....	12
Windows repaired .....	3
Windows painted .....	48
Doors repaired .....	2
Doors renewed .....	16
Doors painted .....	6
Ceilings renewed .....	6
Ceilings repaired .....	6
Ceilings decorated .....	6
Skirting boards repaired .....	28
Floors renewed .....	8
Sculleries provided or rebuilt .....	4
Food cupboards provided .....	4
Staircase repaired .....	4
Ventilation improved .....	4
Natural lighting improved .....	3
Dampness remedied .....	7
Yards paved .....	2
Yards repaired .....	2
Houses reconditioned .....	8
Fireplaces fixed .....	2
Cooking ranges repaired .....	2
Water supply carried indoors .....	2

Drainage:

Drainage relaid .....	16
Drainage repaired .....	9
Cesspool systems converted .....	3
Choked drains cleared .....	20
Choked sewers cleared .....	4
W.C.'s built .....	2
W. C.'s repaired .....	4
Bathrooms provided .....	2
Sinks provided .....	2
Gulleys provided .....	10
New W.C.Pans provided .....	6
Baths fixed .....	4
Urinals fixed .....	1
Inspection chambers built .....	17
C.I. Covers provided .....	17
Interceptors fixed .....	5

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following disinfections were carried out:-

Houses disinfected .....	12
Rooms sprayed or fumigated .....	74
"    "    "    "    for tuberculosis .....	16
"    "    "    "    for cancer .....	14
"    "    "    "    for vermin (disinfestation) .....	9
Library Books .....	52
Gloving fumigated .....	5
Clothes .....	22
Miscellaneous .....	15

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960.

During the year a complete survey of all food premises within the Borough was carried out. They were classified as follows:-

1. General Grocers .....	77
2. Catering Establishments (including canteens) .....	32
3. Sweets .....	22
4. Butchers .....	20
5. Greengrocers .....	19
6. Confectioners .....	10
7. Bakeries .....	9
8. Fish and Chips .....	7
9. Fish .....	5
10. Food Factories .....	2
Total .....	203

Whilst the survey revealed a number of technical infringements of the Regulations, mainly of a structural nature, the general standard of hygiene was found to be good. In all cases where infringements existed the necessary remedies were obtained without resort to legal action.

Catering establishments were given special attention, and in general the standard can be said to be above that required by the Regulations.

## SHOPS ACT 1950.

Number of inspections .....	288
Unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation .....	6
Unsatisfactory ventilation .....	1

### Inspections of Food Premises:

Slaughterhouses (re. meat inspection) .....	1042
Butchers' Shops .....	62
Cafes, restaurants, etc .....	50
Dairies .....	35
Icecream premises .....	58
Re: Applications for Registration .....	8
Fish Shops .....	23
Provision dealers .....	182
Other premises .....	47
Cooked meat shops .....	21
Stalls .....	24
Bakehouses .....	21



### Results of Visits to Food Premises:

Equipment cleaned, repaired or renewed .....	18
Sanitary Conveniences:-	
cleaned, redecorated or repaired..	6
hygienic notices provided .....	12
Wash-hand Basins:-	
provided or renewed .....	10
cleaning materials provided .....	11
First Aid Equipment provided or renewed .....	6
Sinks provided .....	1
Lighting improved .....	4
Ventilation improved .....	1
Food Rooms cleaned, repaired or redecorated .....	37
Refuse accommodation improved .....	5
Food Storage improved .....	2
Vehicles improved .....	1

### FOOD INSPECTION.

The premises in Queen Street still continue to serve the Borough and parts of the rural area. Some killing is done for markets outside the area. The future of the main slaughtering facilities within the Borough is still under discussion. Since the Public Health Meat Regulations came into force in 1924, regular inspection has been carried out almost without a break, and as near as possible 100% inspection, especially in latter years. The opportunity to inspect the whole carcase with the relevant offal is an important feature of this work, and cessation of slaughtering facilities within the Borough could result in a partial inspection only at retail premises.

Number of animals killed during the past five years:-

YEAR	CATTLE	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	CALVES	TOTAL
1956	2176	2896	12283	2715	20,070
1957	2047	3951	9038	1774	16,810
1958	2205	3599	11050	1387	18,241
1959	1696	3850	7005	114	12,655
1960	1678	3223	4585	156	9,642

#### NOTE:

The decrease in pig totals is due to the fact that the Bacon Factory ceased to function as such early in the year.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	1600	78	156	3223	4585
Number inspected	1600	78	156	3223	4585
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	8	3	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	171	14	9	107	123
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.07%	17.94%	10.89%	3.41%	2.87%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	2	-	-	38
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	2.56%	-	-	.81%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	9	2	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	9	2	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:-					
(a) Tuberculosis	504	28	-	-	114
(b) Cysticercosis	360	60	-	-	-
(c) Other	2002	98	411	369	2839
Total (in lbs). condemned	2866	186	411	369	2953

Whilst the figures show some rise in the amount affected with T.B., there has been a decrease in the incident of cysticercosis.

OFFAL CONDEMNED:

	<u>Bullocks</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Heads and Tongues .....	13	4	-	31
Plucks .....	2	4	3	37
Lungs and Hearts .....	-	1	-	23
Lungs .....	21	2	103	44
Skirts .....	8	-	-	-
Kidneys .....	-	2	-	24
Livers .....	103	1	75	63
Part Livers .....	149	2	2	2
Stomachs .....	2	1	-	-
Milts .....	1	1	-	1
Guts .....	7	1	-	13
Mesenteries .....	-	1	-	2

Note: The large number of whole or part livers condemned is due chiefly to parasitic rather than pathological causes.

CANNED FOODS CONDEMNED.

Jam .....	11 tins
Meat .....	567 "
Milk .....	284 "
Fruit and Vegetables .....	1244 "
Fish .....	164 "
Hams .....	73 "
Soup .....	72 "
Total	2415 tins
	=====

Other food condemned:

Wet Fish .....	13½ stone.
Imported Mutton .....	83 lbs.

FOOD AND DRUGS - MILK & DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959.

- (a) Number of registered distributors ..... 47
- (b) Number of registered dairy premises (other than dairy farms).. 4

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955.

Applications granted for the registration of persons and premises:-

for the sale and storage of icecream .....	4
for the preparation of preserved food .....	3

Icecream:

Total number of premises registered at the end of the year:-  
for sale and storage only ..... 81

Preserved Food:

Total number of premises registered at the end of the year... 23

<u>SAMPLES TAKEN</u>		
<u>Designated Milks(for keeping quality only):</u>		
	<u>Number taken</u>	<u>Number passed</u>
By Public Health Inspectors Dept.	1	1
By Somerset County Council	217	217

Icecream:

<u>Number taken.</u>	<u>Placed in provisional grades</u>			
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
15	15	-	-	-

An exceptionally good grade. was maintained throughout the year.



SWIMMING BATHS WATER.

Samples were not sent off, but readings for residual chlorine were taken and proved satisfactory.

WATER:

	Bacteriological		Chemical	
	Number taken	Satisfactory	Number taken	Satisfactory
Main supplies (to cover all sources)	45	45	-	-
Source supplies (supplying mains)	7	7	8	8

Note:

Tests are now made for residual chlorine in each sample taken. All water supplies are chlorinated before passing into the main.

VERMIN INFESTATION

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

1. Sewerage System.

During the year the sewerage system in the Borough was again systematically tested for rats. The following figures show the work carried out. The infestations found have proved to be of a minor character.

Areas test baited ..... 12  
Points baited ..... 339  
Negative results (presumed clear) ..... 207  
Total number of visits made ..... 628

2. Private Premises (including business premises):

Number of premises visited ..... 632  
Number treated for some degree of infestation ..... 201  
Number with no infestation ..... 469  
Number of points baited ..... 3072  
Number of premises cleared ..... 196

3. Corporation Premises:

Inspections and treatments are carried out at the Corporation Sewage Works and Refuse Tip regularly. The work is done as a routine measure in order to keep any infestation under control.

During the year approximately 110 visits were made and more than 900 points baited.

Approximately 120 visits were made in connection with five contracts at business and factory premises.

STATUTORY ACTION UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

SECTION	STATUTORY NOTICE SERVED	ABATED
Section 24	5	5

I again record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their continued support throughout the year, also the Members of the Staff of my Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C.G.H.RICE.





